THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) To encourage transfer of technology in various sectors, the Government has been progressively liberalising foreign technology collaboration agreement regime. The Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry in its 120th Report while discussing the Demand for Grants of Department of Heavy Industry for 2003-04 has recommended association of Indian Companies for technology transfer and updation, when foreign companies bid for large contracts in India. The extant policy governing Foreign Technology Collaboration Agreement do not stipulate such a condition. However, MNCs bidding for projects in India would also be governed by the terms of tender floated for the purpose. FDI policy, including the policy relating to Foreign Technical Collaboration Agreement is reviewed on an ongoing basis, wherein recommendations received from various quarters are taken into account.

Marine Export to USA

12. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the majority of the Indian marine products are exported to USA;

(b) if so, the details of the marine exports made to USA during the last five years; year-wise; and

(c) the other major countries to which India is exporting its marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) As per export figures provided by the Marine Products Export Development Authority, the exports of marine products to the USA during the year 2002-03 amounted to US $ 376.39 million, which is 26.8 of the total marine products exported from India.

(b) The quantity and value-wise export of marine products to the USA during the last five years have been as follows:

Year	Quantity in tonnes	Value	
		In Rs. crore	In Million US$
1998-99	34472	617.32	147.58
1999-2000	36645	775.35	180.19
2000-01	41747	1164.40	255.93
2001 -02	49041	1421.38	299.05
2002-03	55510	1818.87	376.39

(c) The other major importing countries of our marine products are Japan, the E.U. member countries, China, South East Asian countries, etc.

Opening of silk route via Nathula pass of Sikkim

13. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent visit of the Prime Minister and Defence Minister to China would help in opening of the silk route of Commerce *via* Nathula pass in Sikkim;

(b) whether any discussion has been held with China to open some other route of Commerce *via* Arunachal Pradesh during their visit;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons, therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (d) During the visit of Prime Minister to China from June 22-27, 2003, India and China signed, *inter alia,* a Memorandum on Expanding Border Trade. It adds another Pass on the India-China border and sets up an additional point on each side for border trade. The two sides agreed to use Nathula